

**From:** Red Miller  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 11/19/01 11:53am  
**Subject:** Proposed Microsoft settlement comments

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my opinion that the settlement between Microsoft and the U.S. Department of Justice announced on November 2 is inadequate. The proposed settlement includes vague language that provides little assurance that it will eliminate Microsoft's illegal practices, nor will it prevent recurrence of the same or similar illegal practices

The court has found that Microsoft has a monopoly for desk-top computer operating systems. Unfortunately, the proposed settlement shows little understanding for what a desk-top computer operating system is. An operating system is a distinct set of processes that enable application system software to use the various hardware and peripherals of a computer system. Under the proposed terms of the settlement, Microsoft will be free to continue to use its operating system monopoly power to an unfair advantage with various and multiple application systems businesses.

A more fair settlement would require that Microsoft sell a stripped-down version of Windows only performs operating system functions. Application systems that should not be considered part of an operating system include software for browsing the Internet, reading e-mail, listening to music or sending instant-messages.

I would prefer that the court require that Microsoft and the Department of Justice enter a settlement that ensures effective and certain relief. Such a settlement should clearly delineate restrictions on Microsoft's behavior that limit use of its monopoly power to unfairly expand into application systems business.

Fredrick Miller  
consumer and U.S. Citizen  
1924 Claremont Commons  
Normal, IL 61761